

First 5 Preschool Demonstration Project RFA - November 2005



November 18, 2005

Dear First 5 County Commission Executive Director:

First 5 Preschool Demonstration Project Request for Applications (RFA)

First 5 California Children and Families Commission (First 5 California) is pleased to provide this second round for the First 5 Preschool Demonstration Project Request for Applications (RFA). First 5 California approved \$100 million in July 2003 for the First 5 Preschool for All (PFA) initiative which has now been renamed the First 5 Power of Preschool initiative to connect with the new First 5 Power of Preschool website (www.powerofpreschool.com) and public education campaign. Of the \$90 million committed to increasing the number and quality of preschool spaces over five years through demonstration projects, approximately \$60 million is available after the first round of seven First 5 Preschool Demonstration Projects were announced on October 20, 2005. First 5 California will select additional First 5 Preschool Demonstration Projects that meet the First 5 Quality Criteria approved January 2005 and that reflect the cultural, linguistic, and geographic diversity of California.

First 5 California is also supporting broader technical assistance and will further encourage the development of a statewide network of First 5 Preschool Demonstration Projects, regardless of an applicant's selection for First 5 California financial contribution. Of the remaining \$10 million, approximately \$3.5 million supports technical assistance for interested counties and will be further allocated to evaluation, monitoring, start-up, and technical assistance costs based on input from the First 5 Preschool Demonstration Projects, partner agencies, and First 5 California priorities. First 5 Preschool Demonstration Projects are intended to reflect the benefits of a quality preschool experience at a systems level, focusing first in high priority communities.

Interested First 5 County Commissions are invited to submit a comprehensive application. **The application deadline is February 15, 2006.** Please review the timeline included in the RFA. A revised Questions and Answers (Q&A) document will be sent in early December. Both the revised RFA and Q&A documents will be posted and available on the First 5 California website: <http://www.ccfc.ca.gov/PFA.htm>. Please continue to check the website for any further updates. We look forward to working together to improve the capacity and quality of preschool programs in California. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Roberta Peck via email: rpeck@ccfc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Kris Perry
Executive Director

Enclosure

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cc: State Commissioners
Sherry Novick